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SENATORS PRESS 'WATCHDOG' ISSUE

Floor Debate Likely on Plan to Expand C.I.A. Panel

Special to The New York Tunes WASHINGTON, May 3 - A Senate debate appeared likely today on the question of expending the "watchdog" committee that provides surveillance over the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Knowledgeable Senate sources were pessimistic, however, about the prospect of rounding up enough votes to force an expansion of the watchdog group over its own objections.

It became known yesterday it became known person that Senator Richard B. Russell, Georgia Democrat who is the group's senior member, had rejected a proposal by the Foreign Relations Committee that three of its members be added to the 'watchdogs.'

Mr. Russell wrote Senator J. W. Fulbright, Arkansas Demo-crat who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, to that effect

Mr. Fulbright will probably bring up the matter in the next meeting of his committee, which is scheduled for next week. There was some doubt whether had accommodate the bad one of the scheduled. there was some gount whether he had enough votes in the com-mittee to take the proposal to the floor of the Senste with committee backing.

If the issue develops through formal action of the Foreign Relations Committee, it will insure floor debate.

If it does not, Senator Eugene McCarthy, Democrat of Minnesota, who has been a persistent critic of Congress's method of supervising C.I.A. activities, is prepared to move on the Sen-ate floor to expand the "watchdog" committee.

Russell Seen Confident

Experienced Senate headcounters considered it unlikely that, in either case, the Senate would overrule the Russell group and add members of the Foreign Relations Committee to

They said Mr. Russell, one of the most expert of Senate strat-

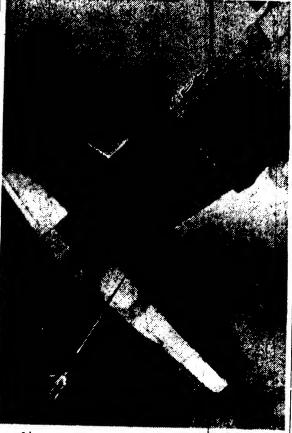
dent that he could win in a vote of the entire Senate.

Moreover, it was suggested, a debate would be unlikely to change the situation. For one thing, the Senate is always reluctant to overrule one of its senior chairmen, and this would be particularly so in the case of the C.I.A. agents took part in a said: "Stanford University spokesman Michigan University project in be particularly so in the case of the C.I.A. supervisory group, since its work is secret and many Senators are chary of tampering with "security matters."

Also, the present "work is accret and the nation's colleges was announced today by a C.I.A. and the nation's colleges was announced today by protested yeterday against a classified contract that Stanford University has with the C.I.A. in engineering research. But a university spokesman serior chairmen, and this would Michigan University project in south Vietnam several years grant in which the university is used as a cover to clandestine ters."

Also, the present "watchdog" group is composed entirely of senior members of the Armed Services Committee, of which Mr. Russell is chairman, and of the appropriations Committee. These committees form a

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4. 'Victims' Reeled Aloft by Plane



One of three men in test of new pilot-resons technique is recled into plane over Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

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technique of rescuing downed fliers and astronauts.

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nylon line running from a balloon down to a harness stitched into his flight suit. He was then recied in to safety.

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Powell Plans Inquiry WASHINGTON, May 3 (AP)

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circles.

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They said Mr. Russell, one of the most expert of Senate strategists, would hardly have rejected the opportunity to negotiate the matter with Mr. Ful-bright if he had not been confident that he could win in a vote of the entire Senate.

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Also, the present "watchdog" group is composed entirely of senior members of the Armed Services Committee, of which Mr. Russell is chairman, and of the appropriations Committee.

These committees form a power center in the Senate. since virtually every Senator at one time or another needs the approval of one or both for milltary or civilian projects in his state.

Nevertheless, there appears to be in the Senate more open discontent about C.I.A. surveil-lance than usual. Foreign Relations Committee members complain, for instance, that when C.I.A. officials testify, even in executive session, they constantly invoke "security" and refuse to answer searching questions.

Some members of the Foreign Some members of the Foreign Relations Committee, in particular, believe they need to know more about the effect of C.I.A. activities and about reports on foreign policy making within the Administration.

They also think that members

They also think that members whose particular concern is foreign policy, rather than defense policy, might exert a useful in-fluence on the C.I.A. through

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Powell Plans Inquiry WASHINGTON, May 3 (AP) A Congressional investigation of the relationship between

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Mr. Powell said he was disturbed by recent reports that C.I.A. agents took part in a Michigan University project in grant in which the university sago. He said the House Education and Labor Committee, activities."

Stanford Pact Opposed
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secret which he head, would look into the general subject of C.I.A. activities in higher education circles.

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the exotic, the beautiful,

